



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re the Application of:

Zoran

Serial No.: 10/686,603
Filed: October 17, 2003
For: Apparatus and Method for Damping Vibration in a
Machine Tool

Examiner: Erica E. Cadugan
Art Unit: 3722
Our File: K8000275US

December 13, 2005

DECLARATION OF DON ZORAN UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.132

Commissioner of Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Service Window
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314
U.S.A.

Dear Commissioner:

I, ERIC G. DAHLIN, hereby declare that:

1. I am the Associate Vice-President, Business Development and Applied Research at Conestoga College Institute of Technology and Advanced Learning. I graduated in 1971 with a Bachelor of Applied Science in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Waterloo in Waterloo, Ontario, Canada and have been a Registered Professional Engineer

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in the Province of Ontario since 1973. My experience includes over 25 years of design and fabrication of mechanical equipment.

2. I am familiar with machine tools and attempts in the prior art to reduce vibrations. These prior art attempts involve damping material selected because of its resilience. Also, in the prior art, the damping material is positioned at or near a cutting tool – never in a base.

3. In view of the foregoing, selection of a very thin sheet of polyvinylchloride ("PVC"), a generally nonresilient material, is counterintuitive. In my view, one skilled in the art would not ordinarily think of using a very thin sheet of PVC as a damping material, e.g., a sheet between 0.01 inch and 0.02 inch in thickness, as used in the invention.

4. Based on my experience and knowledge of machine tools, I believe that the approach taken by the inventor, Don Zoran, is novel. I have observed an embodiment of the invention in operation. The benefits of reduced vibration and reduced noise which the invention provides are impressive and will be highly valued by industry. It is very surprising that the reduction in vibration is achieved using very thin layers (e.g., between 0.01 inch and 0.02 inch) of hard PVC.

5. I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true, and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further, that these statements were made with the knowledge that wilful, false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such wilful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Signed at Cambridge, Ontario and dated this 13th of December, 2005.


ERIC G. DAHLIN